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THE SCHOOL-TAX QUESTION.

The dispute between the Board of Education of this city and some prominent citizens, on the subject of the school tax limit, should not provoke ill feelings or reflect in any way upon the integrity or the ability of the school board. Figures have been cited on both sides which are to some extent misleading. We do not impute improper motives in either case; we merely mention the facts.

The board of governors of the Commercial Club adopted the report of the committee, appointed to investigate the financial aspect of the plea for more funds, presented to the Legislature in behalf of the Board of Education. The conclusion reached was, that instead of money for city school purposes, and to seven mills. Taking the figures as formulated by that committee, we shared in the views of the club as represented by the governors.

Then the Board of Education presented another set of figures, showing mistakes and omissions in the club committee's report, and establishing the claim that there would be a deficit that as well as the other report, and also a letter from one of the members of the school board. The "News" has presented both sides of the contention in all its public phases, with a preponderance, if anything, of statements on the side of the Board of Education,

But this paper has not been and is not, now in favor of raising the tax limit. This is not on the ground that the Board of Education has done anything improper or intends to do anything wrong, or that it is incompetent, open to blame in any particular It is solely on the ground of the injustice and oppression of the poor taxpayers, involved in the levying of heavfer burdens upon them than those they are now compelled to bear, and which in numerous instances have gone beyond the limit of endurance and capacity to meet.

There is one point, however, in the estimates furnished by the school board in support of their plea for more money, and that is, they are made on the basis of a ten months term, while for the past eight years at least, the term has been but nine months. That is why we used the word "misleading," in reference to the school board figures as well as those of the club committee, without charging any intent to misrepresent. may be argued that deducting holidays the term would not reach actually ten But that does not alter the fact, for the same holidays have been had under the nine months term.

Now, we maintain our position that, at present, "well enough" can be "let Let the school board cut its garment according to the cloth furnished. If it will not make a suit on the design in view, let it be made to the extent possible with the stuff obtain able. We have done very well with the nine months term for several years, and there are many reasons to be offered why it is long enough considering all things in this locality. But never mind about that. We are opopsed to an increase of taxation, because of the inability of the poor property-holders, who are very numerous, to find the

money to pay it. Look at the delinquent tax list for 1901! Watch the sales of property for taxes that will ersue! Hear the cries of the struggling householders who protest against further taxation! Then look at the schools we have and may continue to have without any extra levy and say why the masses shall be oppressed for the purpose of carrying out the wishes of the educators who, very properly perhaps, want to push the cause to higher levels. We can afford to wait for further improvements until we are financially able to make them. We are not down in the mire on this matter, but on a very good plane, and can move along without material

injury to anyone or anything. No one wants education to retrograde There is no occasion for such a movement. Nor is there necesity of running faster than we have strength to maintain the pace. We need not go wild on that subject more than on any other. The tax-raisers clamor from the stand. point of expediency; we stand up for the cause of necessity. Let the taxlimit stand for the present. It is a local question, let it be settled locally, without legislation against the protest of the great majority of the taxpayers of

THE DIVORCE EVIL.

A contributor to the Arena, Mr Henry T. Harris, does not accept the view that divorce should be rendered more easy to obtain than it is now. He does believe, however, that the entrance to the married state

should be rendered narrower. His argument is the usual: "If the husband and wife find that they have principles of "Mormonism."

made a mistake, and that the lives of both are made wretched by their mutual companionship, it is their duty to separate and obtain freedom by legal process." This, he claims, does not 'wreck" the home. The home was wrecked before, and the divorce is but the legal recognition of an existing

fact. "Divorce never separates, just ar the marriage ceremony never All will agree that many rush into the

warried state without due considerat'on. But would there not be fewer cases of ill-considered unions, if it were more difficult to obtain separation? The very case with which man and wife can have the union legally issolved, encourages the inexperienced and the thoughtless to accept responibilities for which they were unfit. That people who cannot live together

should have a chance to separate, will not be disputed. But the road to divorce should not be rendered easy out of all proportion to the seriousness of life. Those who are married assume responsibilities they should not be encouraged to shirk. They should be willing to make sacrifices on both sides, They should be determined to be governed in accordance with the principles of unselfishness. Where this is the case, divorce will not be thought of as the first remedy against small, real or fancied wrongs. Forbearance, love, kindness will be tried first, and generally with success. Of course, where these are impossible, separation is the enly remedy. That is better than continued suffering, just as the amputation of a limb sometimes is necessary to the salvation of life. But the divorce evil has grown to fearful proportions. It is one that must occupy the attention of lawgivers and moralists.

THE KAISER'S THEOLOGY.

The German emperor has explained als religious views, and satisfied the

country that he is orthodox. The necessity for making such a statement arose in the fact that lately of a deficit there would be a surplus he paid more attention than absolutely necessary, to the lectures of that, anyhow, there was no need to Professor Delitzsch, who claims that raise the tax limit from five and a half | the Old Testament is founded on Babyionian ideas and documents. Not long ogo the emperor personally assisted the Assyriologist in showing stereopticon pictures to sixty members of the court. The pictures were designed to prove the Babylanian origin of the Hebrew ideas. The emperor subscribed to the funds to send professor Delitzsch again to Assyria, and discussed with him, instead of a surplus. We published when he returned, his most recent dis-

> Influential churchmen naturally took alarm at the interest thus shown in heterodox views, and the emperor was asked to make some kind of a statement, for the benefit of the public.

equest, and sent a letter to Admiral Hallman, councilor of the German Oriental society. In this letter he critiizes Prof. Delitzsch for abandoning the standpoint of a historian, going into religious and theological conclusions "which were quite nebulous or bold." tament were such that the emperor had to contradict him. He did not recognize the divinity of Christ and held that the Old Testament contains no revelation about Him as the Messiah. Here the Assyriologist and the historical investigator, the Emperor says, ceases and the theologian begins, with all his light and shadow sides. The Kaiser thought he ought to spare the laymen, and above all, the Oriental Society, from hearing of them. "We carry on excavations and publish the results in behalf of science and history, but not to onfirm or attack religious hypotheses with Professor Delitzsh, the theologian vho has run away with the historian," After thus having told what he hought of the professor, he stated his

wn views. This is what he said: 'I distinguish between two different kinds of revelation, one progressive, and as it were, historical; the other purely eligious, as preparing the way for the uture Messiah. Regarding the former must be said for me it does not adm a doubt, not even the slightest that God reveals Himself continuously in the race of men created by Him. He breathed into man the breath of His life and follows with fatherly love and nterest the development of the huma

'In order to lead it forward and deelop it He reveals Himself in this or hat great sage, whether priest or king, whether among the heathen, Jews or the Christians. Hammurabi was so was Moses, Abraham, Homer, Char-lemange, Luther, Shakespeare, Goethe, Kant and Emperor William the Great, these He sought out and endowed with His grace to accomplish splendid, im perishable results for their people ac-

grandfather pointed out that he wa only an instrument in the Lord's hands "The second form of revelation, the ore religious, is that which leads to he manifestation of our Lord. It was atroduced with Abraham, whose race and the peoples developing from it regard faith in one God as their holies ossession. Split up during their Egyplan captivity, the divided element. were again welded together by Moses ever trying to hold fast to their mon It was the direct interventlo God that caused the rejuvenation of is people, thus proved through ce uries, till the Messiah, heralded i the world, for He appeared in the

'Christ is God, God in human form He redeemed us and inspires, entice us to follow Him. We feel His fir ourning in us. His sympathy strength as us. His discontent destroys us But also, His intercession saves un conscious of victory, building solel pon His word, we go through labodicule, sorrow, misery and death. f

e have in Him God's revealed word nd He never lies. That is my view of these matters is to me self-evident that the Old Testament contains many section which are of a purely human and his torical nature, and are not God's revealed word. These are merely histor ical descriptions of incidents of al kinds which happen in the political

religious, moral and intellectual life of Apart from the fact that this is the theology of a kaiser, it contains several other interesting points. The emperor believes in continuous revelation. He says it does not admit of a doubt, not even the slightest, that God reveals Himself continuously in the race created by Him. He, further, recognizes that God has revealed Himself among different people, without regard to creed or color. In this statement the emperor of Germany has expressed in a mas-

terly manner some of the very basic

"THE MORMONS."

The Boston Herald has devoted con siderable space to the "Mormon" question brought once more to the surface by the election of Hon. Reed Smoot to the United States Senate. Its latest editorial utterance on the subfect is as follows:

"The debate in the United States Senate on the omnibus statehood bili of the Mormons, in the section of the country where they exist in any considerable numbers, upon political af-fairs. It is not probable that there is serious apprehension of this influence in the proposed new states; the number of Mormons is small there, and it is not expected to increase. It is rather in furtherance of the policy of delay, therefore, than for a more important reason that this subject has been pro-truded into the discussion; yet it has had its value-perhaps not intended-in the light that has been thrown through its agency on the Mormon situation.
"The senators who have chiefly fur-

nished information upon the subject are Dubois of Idaho, Rawlins of Utah and Teller of Colorado. It does not appear that there are any considerable number of Mormons in Constern peo-Mr. Teller's knowledge of western peoestimony that he bears to the Morn character is, to our mind, the stranges that the debate developed. He not only certifies to the general good character of this people, but he pays a tribute to the intelligence he found among them. They are well educated, he says; ind they have their scholars. He cite scholarship there who, he believes has not his equal in the world in earned attainments in the specialty to which he has devoted his attenti Teller does not explain, and i seems impossible for any one to ex-plain, how men of this mentality can give adhesion to the tenets of the Mormon Church, but it would appear that that apparent anomaly does exist "The testimony that came from all three of the senators above named was to the effect that the Mormons was to the effect that the administration are by native tendency and disposition good citizens. Senator Dubois said his home was in that part of his state where they have chiefly settled, and that he had found them so. It is in outhern Idaho that the Mormons are cincipally concentrated. When Idaho first passed out of the territorial condition into statehood polygamy was in existence in the Mormon Church. For

Church abolished polygamy, as it did in compilance with the Edmunds law of the United States, this disability was repealed, and the Idaho Mormons have since shared citizenship with the rest the inhabitants.
"The most intimate testimony as regards the present influence of the Mor mon Church in politics came from Senator Rawlins. He, living in Utah and having recently been defeated for reelection to the Senate by the Mormon Church, might be expected, perhaps, to be bitter toward it; but he showed no such feeling. He did declare, under questioning, that the Church had undertaken to interfere in politics to the extent of controlling the action of its embers in engaging in contests for

were disfranchised; but after the

office as themselves candidates. ited instances in which Mormons ha accepted nominations for election, and the Church had interfered, directing The emperor has complied with this them to withdraw from the field. They had declined, and as the result of this refusal their candidacy was tabooed by the Church, and they were defeated. The Church also sometimes has its proteges whom it supports—possibly whom it directs to run—but the Mormons are not united in sustaining it, either in dvocating or opposing men for o The younger Mormons are disposed to discourage such action on the part of Church authorities, and of necessity the younger element there is con-

stantly growing.

The Mormon vote can always control n Utah. It apparently doesn't always deem it expedient to exercise its power but in the case of Reed Smoot, just elected senator from the State, it seems to have done so. This was apparently brought about by the ambition of Smoot himself, rather than as a project of the Church. * * * And this leads us to note another statement made by Mr. Rawlins. It is that the Mormons, as rule, are not politicians. The bulk of them are a quiet, simple, inoffensive, industrious people. Neither is there a native tendency on the part of thei Church officials toward politics. Thei primary concern is in other directions If the politicians would let the Mormon 'hurch alone, it is altogether probable that the Mormon Church would let pol ities alone. If it has any aspiration in that direction, it is to be in with the party in power, in order that it may be safe against adverse legislation from the general government. Judging from the debate we are considering, it is not a threatening affair in our nation. Its numbers are small in the newly proposed States—1300 in New Mexico and 6500 in Arizona. They are larger in Idaho—14,972—which still has not been affected by its Mormon population. In Utah they are much greater, being 118, 201, but even here we find no evil of

which they are directly responsible." Thawing the pipes is no substitute for boiling the water.

Copper combines are not the only ones that have brass,

When the Alaskan boundary is located it should be staked down so that it cannot get away again.

It begins to look as though Winter was hanging on to get a chance to linger in the lap of Spring.

Safe blowers have been at work f.galn. It is a matter of regret that they cannot be put to work on a rock

As yet Delaware has elected no senator. But the legislature's persistence in trying to elect one is rather worthy of admiration.

If Mr. Carnegie wants to do the handsome thing let him pay the national debt. It is an undertaking worthy

Blanche Bates has reached that rung in the ladder of fame where she has narrow escapes from fire. She should be above it.

Poultney Bigelow says that Germany could lick us out of our boots." One thing is certain Americans will never

lick Germany's boots. Mr. Roosevelt is a most entertaining gentleman. He has entertained more, as president, than any other occupant of the White House.

There were enough railroad wrecks yesterday to fill any gaps that may have occurred to break the daily record since the new year began,

It is not an evidence of disloyalty to the government that President Roosevelt greeted Senator-elect Smoot most cordially. But some people may think that it is.

The Supreme Court has just decided that Indian lands are not taxable. And still there are people who claim that I

there are no privileged classes in the United States.

The Sultan has received the joint note of Austria-Hungary and Russia demanding that reforms be introduced in Turkey. He has promised to comply The Sultan is really the most promising ruler in Europe or Asia.

The wisdom of putting fenders on the treet cars was demonstrated again esterday when a lady threw herself n front of a car with suicidal intent and was saved by the fender. Their efficiency as life savers having been so thoroughly demonstrated, every street car should be furnished with one,

Senator Tillman's speech on the negro problem shows that he is at least beginning to realize that it is a most important question and one that is coming to the front about as fast as possible. It will not be so absorbing and burning a question as in ante bellum days but it will approach very nearly what it was then.

To remove the Spanish archives from California to the Congressional library at Washington would be to rob the Golden Gate state of part of its historic inheritance. The legislature of that state proposes to pass a resolution of protest against the contemplated action. Every state and territory that has been erected out of the land ceded by the treaty of Guadeloupe Hidalgo has at least a sentimental interest in these archives and their retention by California. If the archives go, take with them the mission houses and that house in Monterey where Stockton unfurled the American flag. Let it be all or nothing.

ROCKEFELLER'S TELEGRAM.

Omaha Bee.

If now the demand for more drastic legislation shall become stronger and more intense, which is very probable the combinations may realize that high handed attempts to control legislation and dictate the policy of the govern-ment respecting them will not be toierated by the American people.

Indianapolis News.

Is it not now clear to the most stupid trust apologist that the real issue is whether the government is to control the trusts or the trusts the government? To this issue we have been tending for many years. Now it seems to have been most sharply and satisfactorily made. It is well.

Philadelphia North American. No more denial of the sending of uch messages will be accepted as refuation of the report. Any attempt to prevent thorough investigation will serve only to fix the determination of the American people to bring the senate as well as the trusts under their con-Chicago Tribune.

Congress cannot remain inactive now and let the people say the Standard Oil Co. controls it. It has made action necessary. Laws will be enacted under which daylight will be let into the af-fairs of the Standard Oil Co., and other great monopolies, and they will be taught that the people and not they are the government

Baltimore Sun. If Mr. Rockefeller has actually come out in the open in the way descri either he has lost his head, which he has never done hitherto, or his apparen frankness is intended to conceal some other maneuver, still undeveloped far as the public is concerned, which represents his real purpose.

Indianapolis Journal. Assuming that Mr. Rockefeller has ione what is attributed to him. Con-gress must proceed to pass the antirust measures it has under considera-The house has passed then without a dissenting vote. If anything should delay the passage of the conmplated legislation during the presnt Congress, the next must be sumoned to do the work. The mandate f John D. Rockefeller makes action mperative and prompt.

New York Evening Post. The ways of real magnates are no we believe, so innocently direct. They have well tried agents; they have subler methods of reaching the senatori mind than a crude telegraphic word of command. The latter a proud sen ator might resent, but if he sees hi stocks mysteriously raided, or all market "tips" going wrong, he has at acute consciousness that all this tall of anti-trust legislation is seriously hurting legitimate business, and must be stopped. Such a means of persuasion beats peremptory telegrams hol Besides, it is much more polite

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